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A NEW ONCIDIUM FROM HONDURAS

BY

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FROM J. B. Edwards there has been received a species of *Oncidium* which appears to be new. It is related to *O. glossomystax* Reichb.f. and *O. Titania* Schltr., but differs from them in having the disc of the labellum, in front of the callus, quite free from appendages. The closest ally is undoubtedly *O. gnomus* Kränzl., but that species also differs in having a more complicated crest on the labellum. It is probable that the crest varies considerably and is not a reliable guide to specific distinction, but until more material has been examined it would be questionable procedure to merge the Honduran plant with *O. gnomus*. It is a charming species and with *O. gnomus* and *O. Titania* enjoys the distinction of being one of the smallest species of the genus yet known.

Oncidium hondurens Ames, *sp. nov.* Planta minuta, ebulbosa. Folia plus minusve octo, ensiformia, equitantia, obtusa vel subacuta. Pedunculus foliis subduplo longior, uni-triflorus; bracteae minutissimae, acutae. Sepala lateralibus libera, oblongo-lanceolata, apice breviter conduplicata, acuta, extus per medium carinata. Sepalum dorsale obovatum, apice conduplicatum. Petala oblongo-lanceolata, apice breviter conduplicata, acuta. Labellum unguiculatum; lobi laterales dolabriformes,

margine exteriore plus minusve crenulati; lobus medius multo major, quadrilobulus, lobulis lateralibus semi-orbicularibus, lobulis anticis minoribus, obtusis; totum labellum igitur in lobulos sex divisum. Crista usque ad apicem dilatata, apice quadridentata. Columna brevis. Alae gynostemii dolabriliformes, vix crenulatae. Flores pallide lutei.

In habit similar to *Oncidium pusillum* Reichb.f., but smaller in its vegetative and floral parts, mature plants hardly exceeding 2.5 cm. in height. Roots filamentous, whitish, smooth. Leaves ensiform, about eight, equitant, compressed, forming a fan-shaped plant, the lowermost ones often horizontal, the others obliquely ascending with the uppermost ones perpendicular, 7–18 mm. long, 2–4 mm. wide, obtuse or subacute, longitudinally nervose when dry, fleshy and smooth when fresh. Peduncle slender, one- to three-flowered, 2–3 cm. long. Floral bracts about 2 mm. long, conduplicate, triangular, acute, much shorter than the pedicels, smooth. Pedicel together with the ovary about 5 mm. long, slender, smooth. Flowers yellow, 9–11 mm. long between the tip of the dorsal sepal and the tip of the six-lobed labellum. Lateral sepals free to the base, 2 mm. long, about 0.5 mm. wide, oblong-lanceolate, acute, somewhat conduplicate at the tip, carinate along the middle nerve on the outer surface. Dorsal sepal 3 mm. long, up to 2 mm. wide, obovate, broadest above the middle, tapering gradually toward the base, abruptly narrowed at the tip and shortly conduplicate, acute, lightly carinate externally along the middle nerve. Petals 2.5–3 mm. long, about 1.6–2 mm. wide, oblong-lanceolate, shortly conduplicate at the acute tip, 1-nerved. Labellum about 7 mm. long, 3-lobed, the terminal lobe conspicuously bilobulate at the tip with a larger basal lobule on each side; lateral lobes 2 mm. long, 2 mm. wide, dolabriliform with the margin entire or irregularly

ONCIDIUM
hondurense
Ames





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and coarsely crenate, 5-6 mm. wide from the tip of one to the tip of the other; isthmus 0.75 mm. long, about 2 mm. wide; terminal lobe 6 mm. wide at the base, about 4 mm. long, the terminal lobules 2 mm. long, 1 mm. wide, oblong, obtuse, entire or obscurely and irregularly crenate, separated by a narrow sinus, inner margins partly contiguous or overlapping. Crest about 3 mm. long, shallowly sulcate toward the base, dilated toward the anterior end where it becomes quadridentate (sometimes with supplementary teeth or lobules), the anterior pair of teeth projected forward on a quadrate base with the posterior teeth lateral one on each side and widely divergent. Column fleshy, 1.5 mm. long, with a pair of dolabriform wings at the summit; wings 1 mm. long, with the margin entire or obscurely and sparsely crenulate.

REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS: Department of Comayagua, Pito Solo, Lake Yojoa. Epiphyte in dense forest, 2,000 feet altitude. Flowers yellow. August 28, 1932. *J. B. Edwards 101* (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 39050).

ILLUSTRATION: Above, plant drawn natural size. Below, plant much enlarged.

EPIDENDRUM EDWARDSII

SINCE the publication of *Epidendrum Edwardsii* Ames in Botanical Museum Leaflets, No. 2 (1932) 1, a drawing has been made from the type material to illustrate the general habit of the plant and the details of floral structure. This drawing is reproduced on the following page.

ILLUSTRATION: Plant drawn natural size. A single flower much enlarged.

EPIDENDRUM *Edwardsii* Ames



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